Dark 'n' Light @darknlightzine

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Rajyashri Goody is an artist whose work explores everyday and historic instances of Dalit resistance.

In part 2 of Water and Caste, Rajyashri speaks to host @Swati Kamble of hearing the story of the Mahad as a child and how this space, which symbolises access to water, has

become a socio-political pilgrimage for the Dalit community and why people celebrate its anniversary.

Rajyashri speaks of her projects like What is the Caste of Water, 2017, which used 108 glass tumblers containing dried and diluted panchagavya (a mixture of cow dung, cow urine, milk, ghee, and curd) to evoke the so-called purification of the Chavdar tank after the Mahad march.

In 2022, in Is the water chavdar?, she created a body of work bringing together ceramics, printmaking, and paper pulp. These mounds or stupas were a personal homage to the 10,000 people whose stories are unknown, and who journeyed for days to reach Chavdar.

Is the water chavdar?
Rajyashri Goody

She also delves into the complexities of another related project Manu (2017-ongoing), which involves shredding and pulping a copy of the Manusmriti, in remembrance of the public burning of the book on 25 December 1927, six months after the Mahad march.

rajyashrigoody.com/resistance

Listen to Rajyashri in conversation with @Swati Kamble
in Water and Caste: Part Two - Art, Collective Memory, and Anti-Caste history: darknlight.c
m/podcast/storie…

All images courtesy Rajyashri Goody.

What does it mean for our community to make these long journeys to celebrate something?
In this case, to drink water?

Rajyashri Goody
Artist

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